

1938

SWALE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

of

Dr. PRIDEAUX SELBY

Acting Medical Officer of Health,

WITH THE ANNUAL REPORT OF

A. J. HURN, C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

Chief Sanitary Inspector,

for the

Year Ending December 31st, 1938

SITTINGBOURNE:
W. J. PARRETT, LTD.
1939

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ACTING MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH :

Dr. PRIDEAUX SELBY, O.B.E., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR, MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTOR :

A. J. HURN, C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

SURVEYOR :

L. A. RANDERSON, M.Inst. M., and Cy.E.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE ACTING MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,—

I beg to present an Annual Report for the year ended December 31st, 1938.

The Swale Rural District formed by the amalgamation of the late Rural Districts of Faversham and Milton, is about 70,000 acres or 100 square miles in extent, with the main London-Dover road traversing the centre of the District, from the eastern to the western boundary, a distance of 18 miles, passing through the towns of Faversham and Sittingbourne en route.

During the hop-picking season the population is augmented by about 6,000 visitors.

The area comprised within the District consists of 37 parishes, which together with their Representatives, are enumerated on Page 1.

The parishes are typically agricultural, except those bordering the Swale and Creeks, where brickmaking and cement works are active. In addition there is the barge industry for the carriage into the district of London refuse and manure, and the exportation of bricks.

With this Report is incorporated that of your Chief Sanitary Inspector, Mr. A. J. Hurn, C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A., and the Annual Report for the Rural District of Swale on the administration of the Factory and Workshop Act.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area (in acres) : 70,000.

Population : Census, 1931, 20,511. Population : Registrar-General's estimate, 1938, 17,860.

Rateable Value : £65,352.

Sum represented by a Penny Rate : £275.

Number of inhabited houses (according to Rate Books) : Approximately 6,000.

EXTRACT FROM THE VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR.

Live Births (Legitimate), 251. Males 125. Females 126.

Live Births (Illegitimate), 8. Males 4. Females 4.

Still Births (Legitimate) : Males 10. Females 2.

Deaths—217. Males, 102. Females, 115.

Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population—14.5.

Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population—12.2.

DEATHS FROM PUERPERAL CAUSES :—

Deaths—Rate per 1,000 total (live and still births)—3.7.

Puerperal Sepsis—1.

Other Puerperal Causes—Nil.

Total—1.

DEATH RATES OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR OF AGE.

All Infants per 1,000 live births—50.2.

Legitimate Infants per 1,000 live births—47.8.

Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 live births—125.

Deaths from Measles, all ages—1.

Deaths from Whooping Cough—1.

Deaths from Diarrhoea under 2 years of age—Nil.

There is no evidence that unemployment has exercised any significant influence on the health or physique of children and adults.

CAUSES OF DEATH.

Disease.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Diabetes	—	1	1
Cerebral Hæmorrhage, etc.	3	9	12
Heart Disease	30	40	70
Other Circulatory Diseases	5	3	8
Bronchitis	3	4	7
Pneumonia (all Forms)	5	7	12
Other Respiratory Diseases	1	—	1
Peptic Ulcer	1	2	3
Appendicitis	—	1	1
Measles	1	—	1
Whooping Cough	—	1	1
Influenza	2	2	4
Tuberculosis (Respiratory)	6	6	12
Cancer	14	22	36
Other Digestive Diseases	1	—	1
Other Liver Diseases	—	1	1
Nephritis	2	2	4
Puerperal Sepsis	—	1	1
Congenital Debility & Premature Birth	4	4	8
Senility	4	3	7
Suicide	2	1	3
Other Violence	6	1	7
Other Defined Diseases	11	4	15
General Paralysis of the Insane, Tabes, etc.	1	—	1
	102	115	217

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

WATER SUPPLY.

There are 3 companies with Statutory Powers supplying water within the district, namely, The Mid-Kent Water Co., The Rainham Waterworks Co., Ltd., and the Faversham Water Co.

The Mid-Kent Water Co. have mains and distribute water direct in the following parishes : Borden, Bredgar, Boughton, Badlesmere, Dunkirk, Doddington, Eastling, Goodnestone, Graveney, Hernhill, Kingsdown, Leaveland, Lynsted, Milsted, Newnham, Ospringe, Selling, Sheldwich, Stalisfield, and Rodmersham ; and have statutory powers in the parishes of Luddenham, Norton, Buckland, and Stone, but no water mains.

The Rainham Waterworks Co., Ltd., have mains and distribute direct in the parishes of Hartlip and Upchurch.

The Faversham Water Co. have mains and distribute in the parish of Oare.

The Council purchase water in bulk from the following :—

1. From the Rainham Waterworks Co., Ltd., and distribute through their own mains in the parishes of Newington, Lower Halstow, and part of the parish of Bobbing.

2. From the Mid-Kent Water Co., and distribute through their own mains in the parish of Tonge.

3. From the Sittingbourne and Milton Urban District Council, and distribute through their own mains in the parishes of Iwade and Bapchild.

SEWERS AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

The populated parts of the parishes of Newington, Teynham and Lynsted are served with modern system of sewers and sewage disposal works at Newington and Teynham. Both works are of the Settling Tank Percolating Filter, with Humus Tanks discharging into ditches and thence into the Swale, giving satisfactory results.

The question of relaying Boughton sewers is under consideration.

CESSPOOLS.

In the parishes of Bapchild, Bobbing, Borden, Bredgar, Lower Halstow, Hartlip, Iwade, Kingsdown, Milsted, Newington, Rodmersham, Tonge, Tunstall, and Upchurch, the Council empty all cesspools by means of a motor-driven vacuum Cesspool Emptier discharging the sewage over orchard and agricultural land, farmers being encouraged to plough furrows to receive the sewage and thus give an even distribution, or by semi-irrigation.

In the unsewered parts of Teynham and Lynsted the Council empty cesspools by contract, the contractor using a horse-drawn tank and hand-operated pump, discharging the sewage on to his own land.

In the remaining parishes no system of Cesspool emptying is undertaken.

As the Council's cesspool emptiers are working to full capacity the inclusion of any other parishes would necessitate the purchasing of additional plant.

There are still very many privy pits in the Western part of the District, which are being slowly reduced in number. In the Eastern part the privy pits have been reduced from over 1,200 to about 100.

REFUSE COLLECTION.

The Council collects house refuse weekly by direct labour, in a properly covered motor lorry, in the following parishes : Bapchild, Borden, Newington, Tunstall, and Upchurch ; and fortnightly in the parish of Lower Halstow ; and by contract, weekly, in the parishes of Teynham and Lynsted, horse-drawn open carts being used.

The refuse is disposed of on properly controlled tips at Breach Lane, Newington, Dully Chalk Hole, Tonge, and on the contractor's own land at Teynham.

In the parish of Boughton there is a voluntary system of collection of unburnable refuse, chiefly tins, twice per annum, in horse-drawn open carts.

In the remaining parishes there is not any system of refuse collection or disposal, but a nuisance is being caused in the Urban Area by the dumping of refuse from Oare.

The Council's refuse collection lorry in the area of the late Milton Rural District is now working $2\frac{1}{2}$ days per week on this work, leaving 2 full days and 2 half-days per week for any additional collection.

Special attention has been given during the year to compelling owners to supply covered dustbins.

ERADICATION OF BEDBUGS.

It has not been necessary to take any action under this head during the year in respect of either Council houses or private dwelling houses.

SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS.

The only one in the District is at Dunkirk School, which is kept in a satisfactory state.

PREVENTION OF BLINDNESS.

No action has been necessary.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

NURSING IN THE HOME.

District Nurses are engaged in most of the Parishes, and are retained by voluntary subscriptions, and grants from the County Council. The Midwives Act is administered by the Kent County Council, and Midwives are supplied to all the District.

HOSPITALS.

1. Small Pox. Arrangements for treatment of these cases have been made with the Hollingbourne Rural District Small Pox Hospital (Harpwood).

2.—(a) Keycol Hill Infectious Hospital.—No. of beds 96, provided by the Sittingbourne and Milton Joint Hospital Board.

(b) Keycol Hill Tuberculosis Sanatorium.—No. of beds 66 (60 by County Council, 6 by Local Authority).

3. Royal Naval and Marine Maternity Nursing Home, Barnsole Road, Gillingham. Arrangements have been made by the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee by which local patients desiring admission for confinement can be received at reduced fees, and X-Ray Examination made.

VOLUNTARY HOSPITALS IN THE DISTRICT USED BY THE INHABITANTS.

1. Memorial Hospital, Sittingbourne.
2. Faversham Cottage Hospital.
3. Sittingbourne Cottage Hospital for the Old Milton Rural Parishes.

GENERAL MEDICAL AND SURGICAL HOSPITALS.

1. Kent and Canterbury Hospital.
2. West Kent Hospital, Maidstone.
3. St. Bartholomew's Hospital, Rochester.

EYE DISEASES.

Kent County Ophthalmic Hospital, Maidstone, Chatham and Canterbury Hospitals.

TUBERCULOSIS.

Kent County Council Hospitals.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

Infectious cases are removed by the ambulance attached to Keycol Hill Infectious Hospital. There is also provision for the carriage of non-infectious and accident cases by motor ambulances provided by the Sittingbourne and Milton Joint Ambulance Committee and the St. John Ambulance Brigades in Faversham, Teynham, and Sittingbourne.

Institutional Treatment for Unmarried Mothers and Illegitimate Children

MAIDSTONE St. FAITH'S HOME, BEARSTED. Tel. Bearsted 6324.
Superintendent, MISS HENSELL.

This is a Home for young mothers both before and after their confinement. Payments: 7/0 weekly for those in the Diocese; 10/6 ex-Diocesan; 12/6 Public Assistance cases.

LABORATORY WORK.

The assistance rendered by this branch of the County Council is invaluable, and increases every year. Difficult cases of all descriptions are investigated, and so thoroughly and with so little delay that the County Laboratory has a high reputation for expeditious and reliable diagnosis.

The County Bacteriological Laboratory and the Water and Milk Testing Departments are of prodigious value in helping to keep this District healthy.

The constant testing of Water Supplies and Milk Supplies, especially in regard to the supply of pure milk and water to schools, is having a well marked effect on the health of the school children.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936, SECTION 172.

There was no necessity to take any action under this Section.

The Regulations of 1925 provide for the compulsory discontinuance of a person suffering from Tuberculosis of lungs, and who is in an infectious state, from employment involving the handling, etc., of milk.

No action has been necessary during the year.

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

School Clinics : At 36, Albany Road, Sittingbourne, Saturday morning from 10 to 12, and at Davington School, three times a week by the Health Visitor under the Kent County Council.

Dental Clinic : 36, Albany Road, Sittingbourne, Fridays, from 10 o'clock till 5.

Eye Clinic : 36, Albany Road, Sittingbourne, Tuesdays, 9.30 and 1.30 by appointment.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE CENTRES.

Teynham : St. John's Hut, Thursdays, 2 to 4, Kent County Council.

Newnham : The Old School, Fridays, 2 to 4, Kent County Council.

Boughton : Sunday School, Wednesdays, 2 to 4, Kent County Council.

Faversham : Queen's Hall Clinic, Tuesdays, Fridays, 2 to 4, Kent County Council.

Selling : Village Hall, 2nd Wednesday, fortnightly from October to May. Kent County Council.

Tunstall : Parish Hall. Alternate Tuesdays, 2 to 4. Sittingbourne and Milton Maternity and Infant Welfare Committee.

Newington : Women's Institute, London Road. Alternate Tuesdays 2 to 4. Sittingbourne and Milton Maternity and Infant Welfare Committee.

Throwley : Y.M.C.A. Hut, 1st and 3rd Mondays at 2 o'clock.

ANTE-NATAL CLINICS.

An Ante-Natal Clinic is held on the 4th Tuesday in every month at the Faversham Centre, and at Teynham from 10.30 a.m. to 12, 1st Thursday in each month.

There are a Tuberculosis Dispensary and a Treatment Centre for Venereal Disease situated at Albion Terrace, Faversham, provided by the Kent County Council.

Times of Attendance.

Faversham Venereal Clinic.—Men, Fridays, 6.30 to 7.30 p.m. Women, Saturdays, 1.30 to 2.30 p.m.

Faversham Tuberculosis Clinic.—Males and Females, Wednesdays, 11 to 1 o'clock.

SCHOOLS.

In the Faversham Area all schools except Luddenham have main water supplies.

The Acting Medical Officer of Health on the outbreak of Scarlet Fever in a school visits the school and inspects the hands of all the scholars.

The schools are also under constant supervision by the Health Visitors and Medical Officers of the Kent County Council.

The improvement in the cleanliness of the children's heads in the last 15 years is enormous, and infected heads are now quite rare.

The following figures of the school rolls for two years supplied by the Director of Education, Maidstone, show a diminution in the schools of the area of 68 in one year.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS IN THE AREA OF THE SWALE RURAL DISTRICT.

	Approximate Roll for 1938.	Approximate Roll for 1939.
Bapchild and Tonge C.E.	74	67
Bobbing Council	85	81
Borden C.E.	156	165
Boughton-under-Blean C.E.	58	54
Boughton-under-Blean Methodist	99	113
Bredgar C.E.	66	61
Doddington Council	159	152
Eastling Council	83	72
Goodnestone	47	36
Graveney Council	36	38
Hartlip Endowed C.E.	37	38
Hernhill C.E.	88	76
Iwade Council	71	61
Lower Halstow Council	67	64
Luddenham Council	36	40
Lynsted Council	107	98
Milsted and Frinsted C.E.	14	15
Newington	102	105
Norton C.E.	60	52
Rodmersham	61	62
Selling	110	104
Sheldwich Council	66	67
Stalisfield Council	27	28
Teynham Parochial	*149	156
Throwley	54	55
Tunstall	52	46
Upchurch Council	47	47
Upchurch C.E.	43	43
	2064	1996

* + Infants each year.

SCHOOL NOTIFICATIONS OF NON-NOTIFIABLE DISEASES FROM ALL SCHOOLS IN THE RURAL DISTRICT DURING 1938.

	Whooping Cough.	Chicken Pox.	Measles.	Ringworm.	Impetigo.
January	—	5	—	—	2
February	—	2	—	—	—
March	3	9	3	—	—
April	—	12	—	—	—
May	—	5	30	1	—
June	—	1	10	—	—
July	—	—	106	—	—
August	—	1	15	—	—
September	—	3	—	—	—
October	—	—	—	—	1
November	—	—	—	—	—
December	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	3	38	164	1	3

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The total is still low, being 79 with 69 in the previous year.

Scarlet Fever accounts for 48 of these notifications, which comprised cases from 13 different Parishes, but epidemic conditions were kept under.

ANALYSIS OF TOTAL NOTIFIED CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES. Under Age Groups.

Diseases	Under												Over	Ttl.
	1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65	65		
Scarlet Fever ...	1	2	2	2	—	27	6	1	3	3	1	—	48	
Diphtheria	—	1	—	—	—	11	—	2	—	—	—	—	14	
Pneumonia	1	2	1	—	1	1	—	—	3	1	2	—	12	
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	3	4	
Puerperal Fever .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	
Totals	2	5	3	2	1	39	6	3	8	4	3	3	79	

TUBERCULOSIS REGULATIONS, 1930.

Under these Regulations the Medical Officer of Health is required to keep an up-to-date Register of all notified cases.

The cases during the year were as follows :—

	Pulmonary.	Non. Pulmonary.	Total.
No. on Register, 1st January, 1938	38	24	62
No. on Register, 31st December, 1938 ...	49	32	81

Of the above cases 3 recovered, 4 died, 1 was cancelled, and 6 removed to other Districts.

Twenty-two fresh cases were added to the Register, which corresponds with the number notified in the previous year.

(Seventeen old cases have been placed on the Register, which were not on last year's list.)

TUBERCULOSIS.

New Cases.						Deaths.				
Age Periods.			Non.		Total			Non-		Total
	Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.			Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		
	M.	F.	M.	F.		M.	F.	M.	F.	
Under 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1— 5	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
5—10	—	—	3	3	6	—	—	—	—	—
10—15	—	—	1	0	1	—	—	—	—	—
15—20	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
20—25	1	2	—	2	5	—	2	—	—	2
25—35	2	1	—	—	3	1	2	—	—	3
35—45	1	2	—	—	3	2	1	—	—	3
45—55	2	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	1
55—65	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
65 & over	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	6	5	5	6	22	5	5	—	—	10

INFECTIOUS DISEASES (excluding Tuberculosis).

	Deaths.	No. of Cases	
		No. of Cases Notified.	removed to Hospital.
Scarlet Fever	—	48	40
Diphtheria	—	14	14
Pneumonia	4	12	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	1	—
Erysipelas	—	4	2
	—	—	—
Totals	4	79	56
	—	—	—

HOP-PICKING.

Appended will be found the Report of your Chief Sanitary Inspector on the hop-pickers' encampments.

I must express my appreciation of the work of Mr. Hurn, your Sanitary Inspector, a most capable and efficient officer.

Appended is his Report and the Annual Report on Factories and Workshops.

The duties of the Medical Officer of Health concerned with Air Raid Precautions as laid down by the Home Office and Ministry of Health are being carried out under the County Medical Officer of Health by me, and the work is well in hand.

I am, Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

PRIDEAUX SELBY,
Acting Medical Officer of Health.

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR'S ANNUAL REPORT.

Year Ended December 31st, 1938.

Public Health Department,
Newton House, Faversham.
July, 1939.

To Dr. Prideaux Selby,
Medical Officer of Health,
Swale Rural District Council.

Dear Sir,

I have pleasure in presenting to you the Annual Report of work carried out by my department during the year ended 31st December, 1938.

1.—GENERAL.

Number of House Inspections	457
Number of House Re-Inspections	2013
	—
Total	2470
	—
Number of Notices Served :—	
Preliminary	169
Statutory	2
	—
Total	171
	—
Number of written complaints received	25
Number of letters written	398
Number of School Notices (Infectious Disease) sent out	46

2.—HOUSING DEFECTS.

Walls repaired	30
Ceilings repaired	20
Roofs repaired	30
Floors repaired	44
Windows repaired	33
Eaves, gutters and rain water pipes repaired ...	21
Yards paved	33
Dampness remedied	16
Overcrowding abated	10
Verminous premises disinfested	2
Premises cleansed	5
Miscellaneous repairs	50

3.—DRAINS, CESSPOOLS AND ASHPITS.

Drains relaid and repaired	63
Drains and cesspools ventilated	11
Drains cleared	2
Drains tested	50
New baths and lavatory basins provided	14
New sinks provided	37
Cesspools abolished	6
Cesspools and septic tanks constructed	23
Cesspools repaired	13
Houses connected to sewer	2
Dustbins provided	2

4.—CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

New water closets constructed	21
New pail closets constructed	4
Water laid to water closets	7
New pans and traps	10
Privy middens converted to water closets	21
Privy middens converted to pail closets	14
Privy middens abolished	—
Structures repaired	21
New closet pails	1
Miscellaneous	1

5.—WATER SUPPLY.

Number of samples taken for analysis	11
Number of wells cleaned or chlorinated	1
Number of wells repaired	1
Number of houses connected to main	192

6.—FACTORIES (INCLUDING BAKEHOUSES).

Number on register	117
Number of inspections	31
Number of defects found	5
Number of defects remedied	5

7.—COWSHEDS AND DAIRIES.

Number of Cowkeepers on register	60
Number of Retail Purveyors on register	80
Number of Premises on register	120
Number of inspections	322
Number of defects found	15
Number of defects remedied	15
Number of samples taken	56

8.—SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

Number of Registered Slaughterhouses	18
Number of Licensed Slaughterhouses	4
Number of inspections (including butchers' shops)	781
Number of defects found	4
No. of defects remedied	4

9.—INFECTIOUS DISEASE AND DISINFECTION.

Number of visits in connection with Infectious Disease cases	62
Number of disinfections carried out	58
Number of batches of clothing disinfected	49
Number of cases removed to Isolation Hospital :—	
Scarlet Fever	40
Diphtheria	14
Erysipelas	2

MEAT AND FOOD SUPPLY.

The following table shows the number of animals killed and inspected during the year :—

	Killed.	Inspected.
Beasts	268	203
Sheep	4553	1204
Pigs	813	590
Calves	590	138

The amount of food condemned during the year on account of diseased and unsound conditions is as follows :—

Four Beasts' carcasses and offal ...	Generalised Tuberculosis.
One Calf's carcass and offal	Generalised Tuberculosis.
Three Beasts' heads and tongues ...	Tuberculosis.
Two Beasts' livers	Tuberculosis.
Ten pairs Beasts' lungs	Tuberculosis.
One Beast's mesentery	Tuberculosis.
One Beasts' skirt	Tuberculosis.
Three Beasts' heads and tongues ...	Actinomycosis.
Six Beasts' livers	Flukes.
Two Beasts' livers	Abscesses.
One Beast's lungs, heart and skirt .	Pleurisy.
One Beast's liver	Cavernous Angioma.
108lbs. chilled beef	Bone Taint.
Twenty-five Pigs' heads	Tuberculosis.
One pair Pig's lungs	Tuberculosis.
One Pig's mesentery	Tuberculosis.
Three Pigs' livers	Cirrhosis.
One pair Pig's lungs	Pneumonia.
Seven Sheep's carcasses	Emaciation.
One Sheep's carcass	Abscesses and Scepticæmia.
Ten Sheep's livers	Cystic.
One pair Sheep's lungs & strippings	Pleurisy and Pneumonia.
6lbs. Mutton	Bruised.
Also 8-stone Cod Fillet	Unsound.

Approximate weight of condemned food—1 ton 9 cwts. 2 qrs. 5 lbs.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES AND SLAUGHTERING.

There are 18 Registered, 4 Annually Licensed slaughterhouses and 1 Knacker's premises in the District.

The provisions of the Public Health legislation relating to slaughterhouses are, on the whole, well complied with and no trouble has been experienced during the year.

MILK SUPPLY.

The District contains 120 premises registered as dairies, with 60 registered producers and 80 retail purveyors.

Accredited milk is produced at 16 farms and 56 samples of this milk were taken during the year for examination by the County Pathologist. The production of Accredited milk is controlled by the County Council, but samples are taken by this Council's Public Health Staff.

Samples of milk supplied to schools by local cowkeepers are taken by the School Attendance Officers of the Kent Education Committee.

The cowsheds and dairies were generally kept in a satisfactory condition.

WATER SUPPLY.

No important extensions to the water mains in the District have been undertaken during the year.

Main water is supplied by the Mid-Kent, Rainham, Sittingbourne and Faversham Water Companies and, with few exceptions, the District is well provided for.

Eleven samples of well water have been taken during the year and eight existing houses connected to the main.

HOUSING.

During the year the Council completed the erection of 150 houses in 17 parishes, making a total of 340 houses owned by the Local Authority.

Forty houses were erected by private enterprise as follows :—

Bapchild	2	Newington	3
Bobbing	8	Selling	1
Borden	12	Teynham	2
Boughton	2	Tunstall	1
Doddington	1	Upchurch	4
Hartlip	1		—
Hernhill	1	Total	40
Lynsted	2		—

Further particulars regarding housing are given in the appended tables.

HOP-PICKERS' ACCOMMODATION

Appended is a copy of a report to the Council dated 24th October, 1938, on Hop-Pickers' Accommodation.

I beg to present a report on Hop-Pickers' Accommodation during the season recently ended.

There are 1,836 lodgings, and of this total 1,779 were occupied this year.

Six new portable timber huts were erected by Major S. C. Berry at Bushey Close and Poppington Farm, the requisite notice being given

Notices of intention to occupy accommodation were also received in every case.

357 inspections were made of the encampments prior to and during occupation and the following matters attended to.

LATRINE ACCOMMODATION.

The Council's decision to supply labels for the marking of latrines appears to have solved this problem, as no cases of unmarked latrines came to notice this year.

Several new portable latrines were provided to replace old structures.

Generally speaking latrine accommodation was up to the standard required by the Bye-laws. The trenching on the whole was good and the structures were maintained in a sanitary condition during the season.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Three cases of infectious disease occurred during the season as follows :—

- 1 Diphtheria from Boughton.
- 1 Scarlet Fever from Boughton.
- 1 Scarlet Fever from Selling.

The cases were removed to Keycol Hill Isolation Hospital and the necessary disinfections carried out.

WATER SUPPLY.

There has been no alteration in the water supplies since last season.

All encampments are provided with good supplies of drinking water either from the main or from local wells and, where it is necessary to cart water to encampments, locked tanks are used to prevent contamination.

GENERAL.

The District was, as usual, well posted with warning notices by the Automobile Association and the usual Voluntary Medical and Nursing services provided by the British Red Cross Society and the Church of England Temperance Society. This service has now been extended to cover all encampments in the Council's District, and is much appreciated.

The usual visit and inspection of the encampments by a Ministry of Health Inspector during the season was not maintained this year.

Before concluding this report I would draw the Council's attention to the new Model Bye-laws relating to Hop-Pickers' accommodation which were issued last year by the Ministry, and which were considered by a Committee appointed by the Council about twelve months ago. There appears to be some doubt as to whether the Ministry intends this series to stand or whether yet another Model is in course of preparation. If the new Bye-laws are to be adopted I would suggest that the matter be considered in the near future in order to give all concerned time to bring accommodation into line with any new requirements before next season.

I would express my appreciation of the Growers' efforts this year to improve accommodation and to maintain it in a sanitary condition during occupation.

THE FOLLOWING TABLES RELATING TO HOUSING, Etc.

are included in accordance with Ministry of Health Circular, 1650 :—

(1) Inspection of dwelling houses.

(1) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	334
Number of inspections made for that purpose	457
(2) Number of dwelling houses (included under the preceding heading) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932	45
Number of inspections made for that purpose	45
(3) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	Nil
(4) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	104

(2) Remedy of Defects without service of Formal Notices.

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	97
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(3) Action under Statutory Powers.

A. Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936.	
(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	Nil
(2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after the service of formal notices :—	
(a) By owners	Nil
(b) By Local Authorities in default of owners	Nil

B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—	
(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	2
(2) Number of dwelling houses in which such defects were remedied *after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By owners	2
(b) By Local Authorities in default of owners	Nil
C. Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.	
(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	12
(2) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	9
D. Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936.	
(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	Nil
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	Nil
E. Overcrowding (Housing Act, 1936, Part IV).	
(1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at end of year	21
(2) Number of families dwelling therein	21
(3) Number of persons dwelling therein	153
(4) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during year	Nil
(5) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during year	10
(6) Number of persons concerned in such cases ...	70
(7) Number of cases in which dwelling houses have again become overcrowded after action taken for the abatement of overcrowding	Nil
(8) Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which it is considered desirable to report	Nil
(4) Total number of houses owned by the Local Authority	340
(5) Number of new houses built during the year.	
(a) By the Local Authority	142
(b) By other bodies or persons	40
(6) Shortage of housing accommodation for working classes.	
(a) To replace unsatisfactory property	See below
(b) To provide additional accommodation	See below

(7) Any observations as to shortage, or overcrowding, or any other aspect of housing.

The Council have under consideration the erection of 144 houses for occupation by Agricultural Workers in 22 parishes. With the 142 houses already erected by the Council this year no shortage should then exist.

(8) Smoke abatement. Any action taken with a view to the abatement of nuisance from smoke ? Any co-operative action with industry Nil

(9) Any action taken during the year under the provisions of the Shops Act, 1934, relating to ventilation and temperature of shops, and to sanitary conveniences. Or under the Public Health Act, 1936 Nil

FACTORIES.

1.—Inspections for the purposes of Provisions as to Health. Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors.

Premises.	NUMBER OF		
	Inspections.	Written Notices.	Occupiers Prosecuted.
Factories with mechanical power	10	1	—
Factories without mechanical power	21	4	—
Other premises under the Act (including works of building and engineering construction but not including outworkers' premises)	—	—	—
Total	31	5	—

2.—Defects Found.

Particulars.	Number of Defects.			Number of defects in respect of Prosecutions which were instituted.
	Found.	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspector.	
Want of Cleanliness	1	1	—	—
Overcrowding	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors ...	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences :—				
Insufficient	3	3	—	—
Unsuitable or defective	1	1	—	—
Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—
Other offences	—	—	—	—
Total	5	5	—	—

In concluding this report I would express my appreciation of the work of my staff during the year and thank you, Sir, the Chairman and Members of the Council, and Mr. Tassell for your kind support.

I remain,

Yours respectfully,

A. J. HURN,
 C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.,
 Chief Sanitary Inspector.

Birth-rates, Death-rates, Analysis of Mortality, Maternal Death-rates, and Case-rates for certain Infectious Diseases in the year 1938.

England and Wales, London, 126 Great Towns & 148 Smaller Towns.

(Provisional Figures based on Weekly and Quarterly Returns)

	England and Wales	126 County Boro's and Great Towns, including London	148 Smaller Towns (Resident Popula- tions 25,000 to 50,000 at 1931 Census)	London Administrative County
	Rates per 1,000 Population.			
BIRTHS :—				
Live	15·1	15·0	15·4	13·4
Still	0·60	0·65	0·60	0·48
DEATHS :—				
All Causes	11·6	11·7	11·0	11·4
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	0·00	0·00	0 00	0·00
Smallpox	0·00	—	0·00	—
Measles	0·04	0·05	0·03	0·06
Scarlet Fever	0·01	0·01	0·01	0·01
Whooping Cough	0·03	0·03	0·02	0·03
Diphtheria	0·07	0·07	0·06	0·05
Influenza	0·11	0·10	0·11	0·06
Notifications :—				
Smallpox	0·00	0·00	0·00	—
Scarlet Fever	2·41	2·60	2·58	2·05
Diphtheria	1·58	1·85	1·53	1·90
Enteric Fever	0·03	0·03	0·04	0 05
Erysipelas	0·40	0·46	0·39	0·46
Pneumonia	1·10	1·28	0·98	0·98
	Rates per 1,000 Live Births.			
Deaths under 1 year of age ...	53	57	51	57
Deaths from Diarrhœa and Enteritis under 2 years of age	5·5	7·8	3·6	13·1
Maternal Mortality :—				
Puerperal Sepsis	0·89	} Not available		
Others	2·19			
Total	3·08			
	Rates per 1,000 Total Births (i.e., Live and Still).			
Maternal Mortality :—				
Puerperal Sepsis	0·86	} Not available		
Others	2·11			
Total	2·97			
Notifications :—				
Puerperal Fever	} 14·42	18·08	12·51	{ 3·53 15·46
Puerperal Pyrexia				

